

**Environmental Management (EM)
Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
February 2021**

In January 2021, the EM Nevada Program continued to operate in Phase 2 of its Operations Remobilization Plan with a continued focus on the deliberate and gradual approach to the execution of Phase 2 protocols. The Remobilization Plan aligns with the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) *Return to the Federal Workplace Framework* plan in full coordination with site partners at the National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO). The EM Nevada Program closely monitors the data reported by the State of Nevada, the Southern Nevada Health District, and other public health agencies with employee health and safety remaining the top priority. In accordance with the January 20, 2021, Executive Order, [Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing](#), face coverings will be worn at all times in all DOE buildings and leased space, with minimal exceptions (i.e., an employee working alone in an office with the door closed). This includes all public and work areas within a building (e.g., garages, hallways, snack bars, cafeterias, elevators, restrooms, face-to-face meetings, security checkpoints, and government-owned vehicles when other personnel are in the vehicle).

Limited travel has commenced under Phase 2, primarily for Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) facility evaluations and oversight and is being considered and approved on a case-by-case basis, as local conditions permit. EM Nevada crews are currently performing field work. The EM Nevada Program continues to meet its commitments to stakeholders through virtual and/or in-person meetings (i.e., NSSAB, Low-Level Waste [LLW] Stakeholders Forum, State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection [NDEP], etc.) In an abundance of caution, EM Nevada Program has opted to transition all Program-hosted public events to a virtual format through at least March 31, 2021.

External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Hosted NSSAB Full Board Meeting via virtual meeting – January 20, 2021
- Events/Stakeholders Meetings:
 - Presented EM Nevada Program annual site plan and review briefing to EM HQ and EM Consolidated Business Center (EMCBC) via virtual meeting – January 12, 2021
 - Participated in a National Governor's Association Federal Facilities Task Force panel on the importance of communication, collaboration, and trust in relationships between DOE EM Programs and their regulators – January 13, 2021
 - Hosted EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via virtual meeting (NSSAB Chair in attendance) – January 20, 2021
- Publications:
 - Published social media, [2020 Marks Major Milestones for EM Nevada Program](#), – January 5, 2021

- Featured in social media, infographic, and article [*The Results Are In – EM Accomplished Bulk of 2020 Cleanup Priorities*](#), in EM Update Newsletter and DOE EM Weekly Digest Bulletin – January 13, 2021
- Featured in social media and article, [*EM, State Officials Underscore Importance of Partnerships Built on Trust*](#), in EM Update Newsletter – January 19, 2021, DOE EM Weekly Digest Bulletin – January 24, 2021, and NNSS News – January 25, 2021
- Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) tours:
 - Per NNSA/NFO, all site tours have been cancelled until further notice.
- Planned activities for February 2021:
 - Host LLW Stakeholders Forum via virtual meeting (invite only; NSSAB representative to attend) – February 3, 2021
 - Host Federal Facilities Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) Annual Meeting via virtual meeting (NDEP and Defense Threat Reduction Agency to attend) – February 3, 2021
 - Publish article and social media, *Congratulations to Marilew Bartling, Navarro’s RWAP Manager on Secretary of Energy Achievement Award as part of the Packaging and Shipping of Radiological Waste Assessment Team*, in NNSS News and EMCBC Newsletter

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- The fiscal year 2021 Waste Volume Report for first quarter (October – December 2020) is available at <http://www.nnss.gov/pages/programs/RWM/Reports.html>
- Update from previous reports – Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12), Oak Ridge, TN generator: The EM Nevada Program continues to coordinate with DOE Headquarters, NDEP, and the NNSA/NFO on items related to the Y-12 waste event from July 2019. In November 2020, RWAP conducted a facility evaluation that resulted in one Finding. The RWAP final report has been sent to Y-12 for review and a formal response. (please see April – May 2019, July 2019 – April 2020, August 2020 – January 2021 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information.)
- Update from previous reports – Oak Ridge, TN generator #2: In August 2020, a tabletop facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. In January 2021, the generator submitted its correction action plan that is currently under review by RWAP. (please see September 2020, December 2020 – January 2021 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Portsmouth, OH generator: In November 2020, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding and a sampling assessment resulted in an additional Finding. The generator provided adequate objective evidence that the sampling was conducted correctly, resulting in RWAP withdrawing the additional Finding. RWAP’s final report was issued in January 2021, and the generator has 30 days to respond. (please see December 2020 – January 2021 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- In January 2021, the RWAP conducted three facility evaluations:
 - Idaho Falls, ID generator: A mixed (MLLW) verification is ongoing and will be reported in next month’s update.
 - Oak Ridge, TN generator: A MLLW verification is ongoing and will be reported in next month’s update.
 - Amarillo, TX generator: A tabletop surveillance resulted in no Findings.

- In February 2021, the RWAP will conduct two facility evaluations.
- In February 2021, approximately 63,336 cubic feet of LLW, MLLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 101/102, Pahute Mesa

The Pahute Mesa Hydrologic Data Document was completed in January 2021. The Pahute Mesa Transport Data Document began resolution of comments from the internal technical review in January 2021.

Industrial Sites

CAU 577, Area 5 Chromium Contaminated Waste Disposal Cells

CAU 577 comprises five Corrective Action Sites (CASs) located at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex. In July 2020, a revised draft Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan (CADD/CAP) was submitted to NDEP and comments were received. Comment resolution and work on the final CADD/CAP continued in January 2021; the final document will be submitted to NDEP in February 2021.

Post-Closure Monitoring

Non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include CASs where post-closure inspections and maintenance performed in accordance with closure requirements. The annual inspections were completed in December 2020; maintenance and repairs identified during the annual inspections will continue throughout the calendar year.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include six CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. Maintenance and repairs identified during the November 2020 quarterly inspections was conducted in January 2021.

Groundwater Post-Closure Monitoring

Comments on the Yucca Flat/Climax Mine (CAU 97) Closure Monitoring Report were received from NDEP and comment resolution began in January 2021. Preparation of the Post-Closure Monitoring Report for Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain (CAU 99) continued in January 2021.